

# BROOKE BLUEBONNET BROADCAST

VOLUME I  
NO. 2

APRIL 20  
1944



THIS ISSUE DEDICATED

TO THE "OLD" HOSPITAL

ARMY  
MEDICAL  
OCT 15 1945  
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Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
**BROOKE GENERAL HOSPITAL**  
AN ARMY SERVICE FORCES INSTALLATION  
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS



# BROOKE BLUEBONNET BROADCAST

AUTHORIZED BY

**BRIGADIER GENERAL GEO. C. BEACH**  
COMMANDING

**BROOKE GENERAL HOSPITAL**

The Brooke Bluebonnet Broadcast, compiled and edited in the Public Relations Office, is published twice monthly for the patients, military and civilian personnel of this hospital.

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## THE CHAPEL



## RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

### CATHOLIC MASS

CHAPEL ..... Sunday 8:00 A.M.  
RECREATION ROOM—  
Old Hospital ..... Sunday 10:15 A.M.  
DAILY MASS ..... Chapel 7:30 A.M.  
Confessions before each Mass

### PROTESTANT SERVICES

BIBLE CLASS—Chapel ..... Sunday 7:30 A.M.  
CHAPEL ..... Sunday 10:00 A.M.  
CHAPEL ..... Sunday 7:30 P.M.  
RECREATION ROOM—  
Old Hospital ..... Sunday 9:00 A.M.  
RECREATION ROOM—  
Old Hospital ..... Sunday 5:30 P.M.  
CHAPEL ..... Wednesday 7:30 P.M.  
RECREATION ROOM—  
Old Hospital ..... Wednesday 5:30 P.M.

Religious services are also held every Sunday morning at the Medical Department Enlisted Technicians' School, in the Assembly Hall, 11:00 A.M.

## CHAPLAIN DEALE SPEAKS:

"A chaplain's work may be divided into three phases—visitation, pastoral counseling, and worship. Our patients are our guests while in this hospital, and it is the chaplain's duty, along with his assist-

ants to help maintain Brooke's high standard of morale. In addition to his regular religious duties, the chaplain assists in obtaining information on pay, allotments, money orders, and checks for the patient.

"In visiting from ward to ward, we find that the men ask for Bibles, good literature, and religious tracts. Furloughs and passes are also brought to the attention of the Chaplain. It is necessary for a chaplain who ministers in a hospital to have as his requisite, a heart overflowing with sympathy, understanding, and insight into human needs. The patient wants to be sure that he will be understood, and is to the best of our ability. Thus a deep spiritual culture can give to any chaplain this high and rare privilege of being a personal counselor, which fits him for this most important task. There are no shortcuts. One may be versed in psychology, having learned the technique of dealing with complexes and tensions, and still be far short of one's possible spiritual ministry to the needy lives and souls of men.

"Ultimately, the test of whether or not one is a real chaplain to his fellow man, rests upon the character of his own personal life. To live a good and blameless life is not enough; he may be good and yet not gracious; he may speak the truth, yet not speak it in love. Men will open their minds freely when they are made to feel at home; therefore, we want you to know that your burden is our burden—that your difficulty is our difficulty—that your struggle is ours also. We are going through this together. We shall fight the same battle, and we shall win the same V-I-C-T-O-R-Y!!!"

—Chaplain Daniel G. Deale.

## The Cover Photo

... of the Entrance to the Main Building of the Old Hospital, formerly known as Station Hospital, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, was photographed by Corporal Glenn Gerding of the Photo Lab, Signal Section, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Corporal Gerding is from Collinsville, Illinois. Before his entry into the Army, he was a draftsman and assistant chemist.





## The "Old" Hospital--BGH

Formerly Station Hospital, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

**T**HE "OLD" HOSPITAL, now a subsidiary of the Brooke General Hospital, was constructed in 1908 and operated as a fully integrated Station Hospital from that time until 7 February, 1938.

Excerpts from "The Story of Fort Sam Houston, Texas," by Leo Turner of San Antonio, cast a light on the first hospital established at Fort Sam Houston:

"Very soon after the completion of the Quadrangle (1878) a temporary wooden building was erected (1881) just west of the present staff post, for use as a hospital. Old timers say that Army doctors in those days were kept pretty busy treating the old cavalymen for gunshot wounds and recruits for saddle sores . . .

"A fine new hospital (the 'Old' Hospital) was completed in 1908, and additional permanent hospital buildings were erected thereafter. There was no finer hospital in the state at that time. Many famous military surgeons have served there."

And from "Fort Sam Houston, Texas—A Historical Sketch," by Maj. E. A. Kinderkruiser, QMC, formerly Division and Post Quartermaster, the following excerpt is obtained:

"The 'Old' Hospital as originally built

had a capacity of 84 beds. In 1910 the west wings were added which brought the bed capacity up to 152. In 1916 and 1917, fifty temporary ward buildings were added which increased the capacity of the entire hospital to 1000 beds."

The main building of the "Old" hospital consists of a three-story brick structure and has remained almost unchanged since it was first constructed with the exception of the addition of the porte-cochere approximately eighteen years ago. It is surrounded by a scattered group of semi-permanent structures mostly of wartime type of construction and by the more recently constructed permanent Neuropsychiatric building.

Infectious and contagious diseases and neuropsychiatric cases are cared for at the "Old" hospital. There is an officer convalescent section also located here. The "Old" hospital operates a small branch pharmacy located in the main building, three clinical laboratories, one of them for dental work, and a new Post Exchange housed separately, which was completed on 8 November, 1943.

Mess No. 2 is located on the first floor of the main building at the "Old" hospital and a special diet kitchen in this mess

(Continued on Page 4)



Pictured at the right is the three-story and basement brick structure which houses the Eighth Service Command Laboratory. Here are maintained laboratories for testing all dairy products and for determining the fat content of meats and sausages. Tests of other foods contracted for by the Government are also made here; besides, serums and vaccines are developed by the Eighth Service Command "Lab."



## THE OLD HOSPITAL—BGH

(Continued from Page 3)

serves all special diets there for the various wards, 13 through 37. Food is transported to wards for bed patients by electrically heated food carts; served cafeteria style for ambulatory patients in the mess.

\* \* \*

It was during the summer of 1941 that foundations were laid for a permanent Neuropsychiatric building. This building and ward 19 form two units of a proposed five-unit group of buildings to be used for the care and treatment of mental and nervous patients.

The Neuropsychiatric building, modern in every respect, was completed and activated on 9 June, 1942 and occupied 13 June, 1942.

Recreational Therapy in the form of outdoor games including basketball, volleyball, and softball was instituted on 15 December, 1942. It is proving very beneficial in the rehabilitation of these patients.

Electroencephalographic equipment was installed and put into operation in the N. P. building on 11 February 1943. Since this diagnostic equipment has been made available, it has been made of value in the diagnosis of brain disorders.

\* \* \*

The Eighth Service Command Dental Laboratory, under the command of Colonel Glover Johns, is located on the second floor in one of the wings of the "Old" hospital. A new permanent construction building has been approved and promised ready for occupancy in mid-summer of this year.

This laboratory processes dental prosthetic appliances generally for stations in the Eighth Service Command. Facilities are used for training students of the Medical Department Enlisted Technicians School of Brooke General Hospital in dental work. Also officers and enlisted men of other service commands and tactical units are attached for approximately thirty days' training.

This laboratory services approximately 100 stations of the Service Command and Air Forces. It started in December, 1938, and has grown from one officer and 3 technicians to 7 officers, 75 technicians and two civilian employees. It furnishes five per cent of all the artificial dentures for the Army.

\* \* \*

The Eighth Service Command Clinical Laboratory, located adjacent to the main building of the "Old" hospital, though not operated by authority from Brooke General Hospital, works in cooperation with it. This

(Continued on Page 5)



Captain Morris Pollard  
in his office at the Quar-  
antine Section of the  
Eighth Service Command  
"Lab" examining a slide  
of brain material for ra-  
bies.



## THE OLD HOSPITAL—BGH

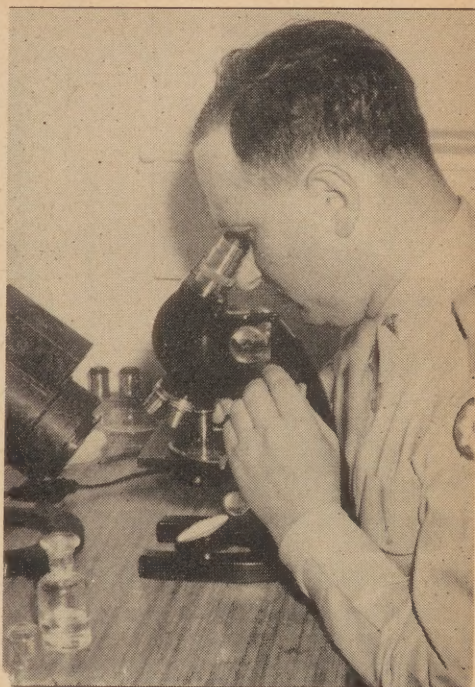
(Continued from Page 4)

laboratory might feel like a "step-child" but the Brooke General Hospital feels a great claim on it.

Besides the Pathology section, Serology section, Bacteriological section and Chemistry sections incorporated in this "Lab" which occupies a three-story-and-basement brick structure originally constructed for laboratory use in 1917, and occupied by the Eighth Service Command "Lab" since early in 1942, there is the Quarantine section.

The "Animal House" is located a stone's throw from the main laboratory and is one of the most interesting places in all Brooke General Hospital. Here are maintained guinea pigs, rats, white mice, monkeys, chickens, and some Hamsters (the latter a rat-like rodent from Syria) which are used to ascertain the cause and cure of numerous diseases in humans.

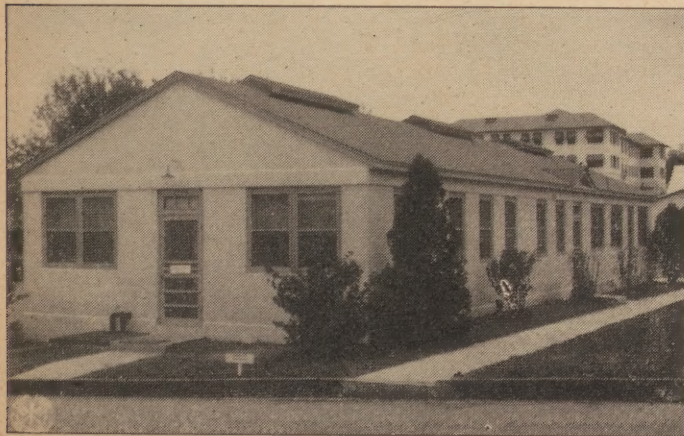
Besides all these important laboratory procedures, the Eighth Service Command



"Lab" conducts tests on foods submitted to it for compliance with specifications; i. e., protein, fat, moisture content, etc.

In addition, all foods purchased by the Army on contract within the Eighth Service Command are examined for bacteriological content to detect disease agents in the food. Milk and meat products are examined and in all cases where foods fail to comply with specifications, the purchase contracts are terminated.

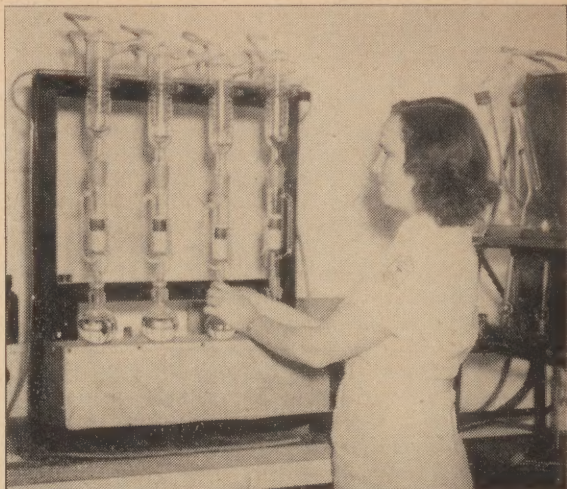
(More About the Eighth Service Command  
"Lab" in a later issue.)



Pictured at left is the Quarantine section in which are kept numerous guinea pigs, rats, white mice and other small animals for use in determining the cause and treatment of certain types of human diseases. Tests on dairy and meat products are conducted here also. (In the extreme right background can be seen the Neuro-psychiatric Building a component of the "Old" hospital).



Right, Elizabeth Tamblin of Kansas City, Kan., is making the Soxhlet Test for fat extraction on foods. All foods, meat and dairy products are tested in this manner for fat determination.

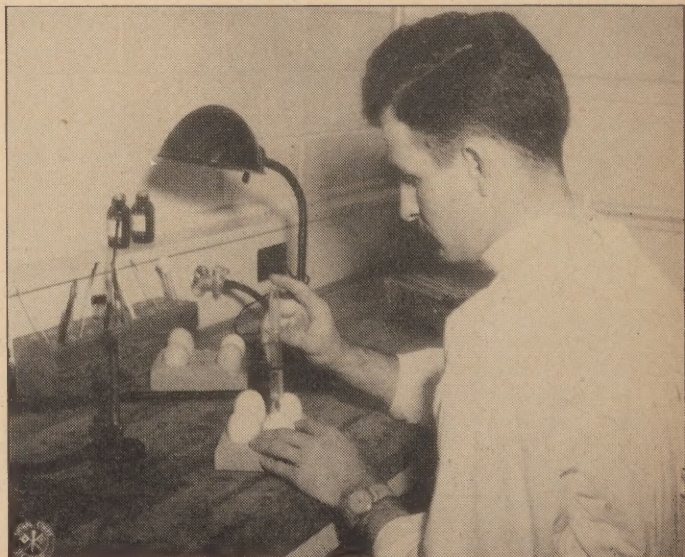


Left, Beverly Blanchard of San Antonio, Tex., shows the technique of determining the bacteria count of milk and the detection of possible disease agents in the products.

Sgt. James D. Kennedy of Louisville, Ky., in the virus inoculation room, inoculating chick embryos with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever in the preparation of vaccines.



More news and photos of the work being done by the Eighth Service Command "Lab" will be incorporated in the Bluebonnet Broadcast at a future date.





# NEWS from the Army Nurse Corps



## Questions...

... THAT PUZZLE ME

1. Who is it who's sporting a diamond in Barracks 7—"Little Audrey?"
2. Who was our most recent "Bride in White" at the Post Chapel on the 24th of March?
3. And what's this I hear about a Honeymoon in Mexico, "Scholtzie?"
4. "Fort Bliss here I come!"—How does that song go, Dolf? Now let's hear the Walatkus version—O-oh the same tune!
5. Peggy K., what does one do with a 3-day pass?
6. Is it true that Connelly is setting the vogue—horn-rimmed spectacles! (Shell-pink).
7. Have you heard about the two Connies of Reid Hall touring around in the best looking convertible on the post—with gas-rationing, too?
8. Do hail storms interfere with Bullard's trip to Dallas—what do you think?
9. Is Martha still a "Bivouac Widow"?
10. Who has "more fun" with the Air-Corps, not Powers and Townsend?
11. Did I hear someone say synonymously, Freddie Leisering — MASTER OF CEREMONIES?
12. Clarkie, is it true what they say about the moo-cow in the Mess Hall the other day at noon, or wouldn't you know? Of course—not Clarkie!
13. When Sgt. Lemons shouted "Forward!" what nurse was it who fell flat on her face without waiting for the command of execution? Could it be a squad leader?
14. Peggy Schmidt wants to know the name of that exercise in calisthenics—is it bone-creaking or knee-bending?
15. Have you heard the song about "IN THEIR LITTLE STEEL BONNETS"?



## NEWS from the Army Nurse Corps

(Continued from Page 7)



### ARMY DAY 6 APRIL 1944

On the 6th of April (another dawn dedicating Army Day) the Star Spangled Banner waved over our Army Nurse Corps scattered over the globe in various theaters of war enduring so much to maintain the lives, to say nothing of the morale of Uncle Sam's fighting forces. Here we might mention Baltzer and Lykins of Ft. Sam, Army Nurses pictured in the "Yank" at the Anzio Beachhead plus many others like them.

The same flag streams proudly over our nurses on the home front who are doing their parts which may not be brought to the public eye quite so forcibly, but their work is none the less effective. We salute the Army Nurse Corps as "that Star Spangled Banner yet waves, o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

## NEWS OF THE MONTH

### UNIFORM?

Effective as of April 15th, the question as to when the A.N.C. will don the summer garb is now settled. Beige is the official

color which the well-dressed Army Nurse will wear with the summer olive-drab uniform as a variation from any suggestion of monotony due to a monotone-combination. Attention is called to the fact that maroon ties and Army russet accessories, the same as those with the olive drab, will be worn.

### THE HUMANE NURSE

If she has made her patient smile,  
She has done her part.  
She has gone the second mile  
In the nursing art.

Science, skill, and cold technique,  
These are good, but terse.  
Give them also what they seek,  
A kindly, humane nurse.

—By Nicholas Lloyd Ingraham, R.N.  
From R.N. Journal for Nurses, Jan. '44



### Musts!! For An A.N.C. Pin-Up Girl

1. She must have that certain undefinable something called "O-omph!"
2. She must have that certain langorous expression.
3. She must wear as few clothes as possible.

All these contribute to make the A.N.C. PIN-UP-GIRL.



# 9 BGH Patients Receive Purple Heart Decoration



The following nine men received the Purple Heart Decoration on 11 April, 1944, at Brooke General Hospital. The presentations were made by Brigadier General Geo. C. Beach, commanding the hospital, to the men for "wounds received in action against the enemy":

T/Sgt. Laurence Allen, Infantry. Wounded 7 October, 1943, Naples, Italy.

Sgt. Ardie S. Knoll, Infantry. Wounded 3 Dec., 1943, near Mignano, Italy.

Sgt. Stanley A. Strybuck, Infantry. Wounded 27 July, 1943, at Munda, New Georgia.

T/4 Thomas E. Doyle, Paratrooper. Injured 7 December, 1943, near San Pietro, Italy.

Cpl. Gilbert A. Monataboy, Infantry. Wounded 13 January, 1944, at San Vittoria, Italy.

Pfc. Weldon D. Arnold, Infantry. Wounded 8 December, 1943, on Italian front.

Pfc. Rudolph Z. Flores, Tank Battalion. Wounded 22 November, 1943, Campozillone, Italy.

Pvt. Jack R. Turner, Field Artillery. Wounded 3 February, 1944, near Cassino, Italy.

Pvt. Joseph P. Jojola, Infantry. Wounded 15 October, 1943, in Sicily.

The Purple Heart was originally established by General George Washington at Newburgh, 7 August, 1782, during the War of the Revolution. Out of respect to the memory of General Washington and in recognition of his military achievements, the decoration was revived by the War Department on 22 February, 1932, the two hundredth anniversary of his birth. It is awarded to persons, who while serving in any capacity with the Army of the United States, are wounded in action against any enemy of the United States, or who die as a direct result of wounds received in action.

## Women: Our Armed Forces need you! Join the WACs now!

Once Sam has sent out an appeal for women recruits for the Women's Army Corps, for it is no longer a question of enlisting a woman to relieve a man to go to the front, but rather there is an acute need for women to replace men who have already gone to the front.

### MEN—UNCLE SAM APPEALS TO YOU TO URGE WOMEN OF YOUR FAMILY TO JOIN THE W.A.C.

In the coupon below, list the name or names, address, age, marital status and race of any women you know who would make a good recruit for the WAC; and remember, they need not necessarily reside in San Antonio. Turn in filled-in forms to The Office of The Commanding General, Brooke General Hospital, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, as soon as possible.

### SUGGESTED NAMES FOR W.A.C.

NAME .....				
Address .....				
Town and State .....				
Age .....	Race .....	Married .....	Single .....	
NAME .....				
Address .....				
Town and State .....				
Age .....	Race .....	Married .....	Single .....	



# RED CROSS ACTIVITIES AT B.G.H.

## PATIENTS OF B. G. H. ATTEND OPERAS

The three performances of the San Carlo Opera Company at the Municipal Auditorium, April 1st and 2nd were attended by patients from all parts of the hospital. The tickets for these fine performances were presented to the American Red Cross for use of the patients. This gesture was made possible through the Devoe management of the Friends of Music who sponsored the operas.

On Saturday afternoon a hospital bus transported the twenty-five patients to the "Faust" performance. It was at this performance that Pvt. Nathan J. Wiess and several other men from Annex IV became interested in the backstage operations and were asked to return and participate in the other operas as fill-in parts.

Saturday evening the men from the hospital were again delighted at the Opera Company's presentation of "Il Trovatore." Some of the highlights of this performance as reported by those men attending were the dancing in the gypsy scene and the singing of the well known "Anvil" Chorus.

The presentation of "Aida" on Sunday afternoon concluded the week-end of exceptional entertainment opportunity for the patients at Brooke General Hospital. A total of seventy men attended the three performances and from the pleasing comments heard by Red Cross workers who accompanied these patients on the trips it was a recreational enterprise not to be forgotten by either individuals who have seen these operas before or by those who have never had the opportunity of attending opera before.

## EDUARDO MARTINEZ SHOW AT RED CROSS

Patients fairly hung from the rafters at the Red Cross Auditorium last Monday night when the Gray Lady Corps presented Eduardo Martinez and his group of musicians and dancers..

It was an all-Mexican night, full of color and romance. Throughout the program the tempo increased with such fervor that we all lost our dignity and cheered on the entertainers with lusty gritos.

Sleek black hair, graceful figures and flashing smiles, with a background of lavish costumes and Latin rhythm, made our

hearts beat faster, as we became a part of old Mexico.

There were sophisticated tangos, rumbas, tricks of magic, and even the Jarrabe (Mexican Hat Dance) to swell our enthusiasm. Lovely Conchita sang, and as four Mexican beauties danced, they swung their vivid red and green capes in frenzied movement to create first a green effect, then a red. Every patient in the audience jumped to his feet in a flash as two live cocks were turned loose on the stage and flew at each other in a rage.

Is it any wonder a departing patient remarked, "Man-oh-man. What a show!"?

## RED CROSS RECREATIONAL PROGRAM, APRIL 19-30

### At the old Hospital for—

Wednesday, April 19, 7:30 p. m.: Mrs. Mayes Variety Show.

Thursday, April 20, 7:30 p. m.: Major Allbright's Stage Show.

Friday, April 21, 7:30 p. m.: Reception Center Orchestra.

Monday, April 24, 7:30 p. m.: Alzafar Shrine Big Stage Show.

Tuesday, April 25, 7:30 p. m.: Mrs. Methany's Variety Show.

Thursday, April 27, 7:30 p. m.: Mary Stewart Edward's Variety Show.

Friday, April 28, 7:30 p. m.: The Kavanaugh Dancers.

### At Annex IV for—

Thursday, April 20, 7:30 p. m.: Kelly Field Orchestra.

Friday, April 21, 7:30 p. m.: "Hungry Five" Variety Show from Harlandale School.

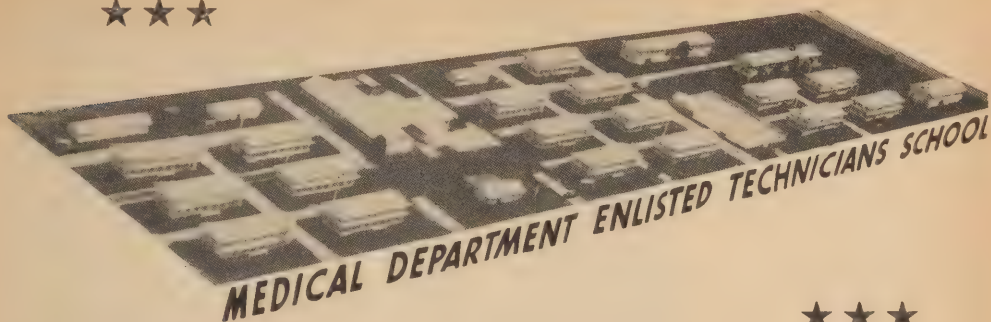
Monday, April 24, 7:30 p. m.: Mary Stewart Edward's Variety Show.

Wednesday, April 26, 7:30 p. m.: Mrs. Mayes' Variety Show.

Friday, April 28, 7:30 p. m.: Variety of Music and Dancing from St. Henry's School.

(Continued on page 16)





**M**ONDAY, APRIL 3, at the Medical Department Enlisted Technicians' School, was devoted to celebrating the third anniversary of the organization of the school as a unit of the Brooke General Hospital. During the morning, a contest was conducted which provided the entire student personnel with the opportunity to witness and judge a demonstration of the correct and incorrect conduct of military formations and courtesies. The program for the afternoon provided active and entertaining boxing bouts between the following students:

Pfc. Lee K. Dawson won over Pvt. Gene Harrison.

Pvt. Donald R. McGee won over Pvt. Clarence Mifflin.

Pvt. Harold Kapplow and Pvt. Hugh Wallace fought a no-decision contest.

Pvt. Calvin Clay was awarded a TKO over Pvt. Dallas Smith.

The main bout was won by a close decision, Pvt. James Wright over Pvt. Stanley Osga.

A special feature of the day's program was a ceremony in which Colonel Warren C. Fargo, Assistant Commandant of the school, presented good conduct ribbons to twenty of our permanent cadremen. Those receiving the ward were:

Sgt. Francis E. Cotter.

Sgt. Bonnie Philips.

Sgt. William H. Hudson.

T/4 William A. Blair.

T/4 Neilan E. Cook.

T/4 Russell M. Rabold.

T/4 Aaron Schwitzer.

T/4 Clifton J. Saralla.

T/4 Milo H. Swanson.

T/5 Joseph B. Baker.

T/5 Anthony J. Barbero.

T/5 Lowell D. Coleman.

T/5 Walter Forke.

T/5 Ozro P. Maness.

T/5 Raymond W. Mitchell.

T/5 Clyde J. Powell.

T/5 Vincent J. Toro.

T/5 John R. Victor.

Colonel Fargo also officiated at another presentation ceremony in which gold basketballs were awarded to members of the basketball team, which participated in four leagues and won three. Those cagers who were present for the awards were:

Pfc. Clifford Fair, T/5 Max Hauk, Pfc. Bart Olsen, Pfc. Gerald Haase, and Pfc. Charles Broadway.

For the benefit of those students who did not have the opportunity of witnessing the outstanding performance of these men in action, a fast exhibition game was played, in which Olson was high point man, with eighteen points to his credit. He was followed closely by Broadway, with sixteen points, Abbott and Hauk, with eleven and ten points respectively.

A special anniversary dinner was served by our school mess, and the staff of the mess did their usual fine job of providing a fancy feed.

Congratulations are in order to Major and Mrs. L. A. Dickerson upon the recent arrival of a fine son, Leon, Jr., born April 3.

To the members of MDETS: Those of you who have items of interest to report in the subsequent issues of the Brooke Bluebonnet Broadcast, turn them in to Pfc. Joe Jordan in the message center at headquarters of the school. Joe is our own "roving reporter."

(Continued on Page 12)



Presentation of the "Barracks Burly Q" was a feature of the celebration of the third anniversary of the Medical Department's Enlisted Technicians' School in which students of the school took part.



## ENLISTED TECHNICIANS' SCHOOL

(Continued from page 11)

Culmination of the day's activities found the assembly hall filled by an enthusiastic audience enjoying the presentation of the "Barracks Burly Q," a student participation show, in which the bars were lowered in the interest of entertainment. The cast poked fun at everything in general and the officers in particular. Privates Jack

Sidney and Harry Levine collaborated on the script for the show and T/5 Rocco Nucera gave us a professional job on the symbolic back drop for the stage.

The cast is anticipating with enthusiasm a "command performance" at the Red Cross Auditorium, Brooke General Hospital, Thursday, April 27.

## CIVILIAN PERSONNEL AT BGH

The Civilian Girls' Club, made up of civilian employees of Brooke General Hospital are doing their part to help maintain the high morale of the patients in the Convalescent Unit. This club has a special planning committee and a party is given for the convalescent patients the last Friday night of each month. These parties are always well attended and the guests number between 75 and 100. In addition to refreshments the guests enjoy a wholesome floor show put on by members of the club and other local talent.

The attractive invitations are made by members of the Employee Relations Department and are distributed five days before the party.

The next scheduled party will be given on Friday night, 28 April 1944 at the USO Club, 326 E. Crockett Street. The employees of the N. P. Hospital have planned many surprise packages for this occasion and have called it "April Showers."

These parties have created so much interest and spread so much cheer since their beginning in October, 1943, that the Club has decided to continue them for the duration.

### ON THE WAY TO BGH

We all know the transportation problem has attained great heights of interest these days. Needless to say the busses are quite crowded and when one is standing it is of course impossible to see out the windows. To find your particular "stop" and ring the bell at the right moment is quite difficult.

This a. m. as we were rolling along someone rang for a stop and unfortunately we had just passed the stop sign so of course the driver thought the passenger wished to get off at the next "stop." (These stops are sometimes a good distance apart, too). After continuing on, what seemed to be several stops to the poor passenger standing about midway in the bus with no way of telling where he was, he rang the bell a couple more times, then in exasperation called out, "What do you have to do, blow a horn?" and the unexpected reply from the driver was, "No, stand on your head!"

We sincerely hope that when the passenger finally was let off the bus that he was sufficiently familiar with the BGH Annexes to find his way to the right one.

—Carmen Blaisdell





# BROOKE SPORTS

By: S/Sgt. William C. McGinnis



## SOFTBALL SEASON IN FULL SWING

The 1944 softball season is now in full swing. BGH won its opening game by a slim margin of 32 to 0 against Richter's Bakery. Kelly Field also fell before the powerful BGH team by a score of 4 to 2. To date, BGH is the only undefeated team in this league. So far, the leading hitters have been S/Sgts. Nible, McGinnis, and Pvt. Gurinsky. Any new members desiring to try out for this club may contact the manager, S/Sgt. Peterson.

Due to the fact that so much interest has been shown in softball at this organization, a Hospital League is being contemplated which is expected to get under way within the next two weeks. It might be interesting to note that BGH has a "one-man rooting section", namely, Pfc. Robert J. Orbick.

The enlisted men at the Old Hospital are also forming a softball team which will be

managed by T/3 Jackson. This team has already worked out several times and is expected to schedule some games in the immediate future.

## B. G. H. OFFICERS TO FORM SOFTBALL TEAM

The BGH officers are now forming a softball team. This team will be managed by the capable Lt. Col. Lee K. Emenhiser, who states that this team will practice every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1700 in front of the Detachment barracks. New members are cordially invited to try out for this club. Approximately 25 officers have shown an interest in playing softball.

A colored team is also being formed which will be managed by Sgt. Mitchell. All those interested should contact Sgt. Mitchell at the first possible opportunity.

**At the cost of blood and lives American soldiers  
are keeping Old Glory flying above Italian soil.  
Only at the cost of ten per cent are we being  
asked to support the Stars and Stripes with the  
Minute Man banner above Eighth Service Com-  
mand installations.**



# Picture Story of What Goes



**PLAYING VOLLEY BALL**

The purpose of convalescent reconditioning in hospitals is to return to duty, service personnel recovered from disease, wounds or injury, in the best possible physical and mental condition through the use of planned physical conditioning, and the constructive use of leisure time in educational pursuits designed to effect a greater realization of personal importance and to produce a more informed soldier.

Excellent results of this convalescent reconditioning have already been noted. First, men have been returned physically fit for full duty; second, readmissions to the hospital have been reduced; third, the period of convalescence has been shortened in certain cases; fourth, the necessity for sick leave has been largely eliminated; and fifth, the morale and fighting spirit have definitely been improved.



**PITCHING HORSESHOES**



**EXERCISING WITH THE MEDICINE BALL**

The physical training program for these men includes calisthenics, marches and increasing distances up to fifteen miles, military drill and ceremonies, combative sports and athletic and outdoor projects. The latter include the making of obstacle courses and outdoor amphitheaters, carpentry and utility work and hobby activities.



# on at Annex IV These Days

Educational activities for these men consist of one or two hours daily military instruction or general education in free discussion of current events. Training films, visual aids, slides, posters and charts stimulate interest. Trips to various points of interest, military and cultural are welcome breaks in routine.



AT DRILL



AT CALISTHENICS

Medical supervision of each individual is essential at all times to prevent harmful overdoing and to encourage advancement. The desire in the soldier to get well and to expect further service, is created, and morale is best restored by physical, mental and emotional activity quantitated on an ascending scale.



AT RETREAT

Entertainment such as movies, special service shows, informal parties, group singing in wards and dances are held in the evenings. Much of the entertainment is sponsored by the Red Cross for which the hospital is truly grateful.



**"FORT SAM"**

(Continued from page 10)

Beneath the sky so calm and blue  
 As the evening disappears,  
 I look about at Old Fort Sam  
 And know the nightfall nears.  
 MacArthur Field, so rich and green  
 Extends beyond my sight,  
 Mysterious are the shadows  
 To the left and to the right.  
 But I know each shadow plainly  
 As they fade into the night,  
 Chapel, Barracks, annex to the left  
 Officers quarters to my right.  
 Though they're not within my vision  
 In memory they stand tall,  
 To the left is our Ward 40,  
 To the right is "Old Reid Hall."  
 Brooke General is my boxseat  
 As I gather in the scene,  
 Towering over Fort Sam Houston  
 Like a proud and stately queen.  
 This is one of many pictures  
 Fort Sam Houston is the host,  
 Standing out within our history  
 Proud and famous as a post.  
 Would that it reveal its secrets  
 Of the history long ago,  
 You could marvel in great stories  
 Dating to the "Alamo."  
 Tho' it was but land unsettled  
 When the famous battle raged,  
 It has grown with time and effort  
 Adding beauty as it aged.  
 It can boast of housing veterans,  
 Of encounters fought and won,  
 For it served as training quarters  
 At the time of World War I.  
 Now it stands, expanded greatly,  
 Taking part in history new,  
 Sending forth some future heroes  
 Of the present World War II.  
 Future holds our secret now  
 Of what is yet in store,  
 But these cherished memories are all ours  
 To keep forevermore.

T/5 OTIS J. OLSON.

Medical Detachment, B.G.H.

5 March, 1944.



"How's your patient, captain?"

"Coming along fine, thank you. This morning he took a turn for the nurse!"

**At the Red Cross Auditorium**

(Adjacent to Main Bldg. "New" Hospital)

Thursday, April 20, 7:30 p. m.: Mary Stewart Edward's Variety Show.

Friday, April 21, 2:30 p. m.: "Hold Tight"—U. S. O. Camp Show.

6:30 p. m.: Movie: "Chip Off the Old Block," with Donald O'Connor.

Saturday, April 22, 7:30 p. m.: The Kavanaugh Dancers.

Sunday, April 23, 2:30 p. m.: Girls' Chorus from Incarnate Word College.

Monday, April 24, 7:30 p. m.: Major Allbright's Variety Show.

Tuesday, April 25, 2:30 p. m. and 6:30 p. m.: Movie—"Heavenly Body," with William Powell.

Thursday, April 27, 7:00 p. m.: Patient Party.

Friday, April 28, 2:30 p. m. and 6:30 p. m.: Movie—"Knickerbocker Holiday," with an all-star cast.

Saturday, April 29, 7:30 p. m.: "Pin-Up Parade"—a musical revue of singing, hula dancers, dancing, presented by Edgewood School.

**"Evidently a Flying Cadet . . .!"**





Catherine Behney Girls

# USO-Camp Show to Play at Brooke

With accent on comedy, the new USO-CAMP SHOWS variety unit, HOLD TIGHT, coming to Brooke General Hospital on April 21st brings a sack o' songs—swing, sweet and saucy—a line of young dancers, easy on the eye—and a novelty billed as “mysterious and mental.” All this plus an m. c. who's one of the smoothest in the business.

Entertainers will include, Ann Howard, Mistress of Ceremonies; Catherine Behney Dancers, line of six clever girls; Johnny Hyman, lightning-fast mental marvel; Joe & Joey Mack, comedy team; Ann & Charles Howard; Comedy, Reed & Dean; Comedy, singing, dancing; Ben Young, pianist and musical conductor, and Keller Sisters, singers.

**Coming to Brooke Friday, April 21st: Ann Dvorak and Jean Brooks, screen actresses—here through arrangements with USO-Camp-Shows**

Pfc.: “Which would you rather be in, an explosion or a collision?”  
Sgt.: “A collision.”  
Pfc.: “Why?”  
Sgt.: “Well, in a collision, there you are,, but in an explosion, where are you?”

BUT  
I'm just a little private,  
So cussing I will skip;  
And when he beats his gums at me,  
I'll button up my lip.  
—Pvt. Paul Matthews, D-28.

★  
**POEM . . . ?**

I wish I were a parrot,  
So I could have my say;  
I'd bet I'd cuss the sergeant out  
A million times a day.

★  
“And there, my son, you have the story of your dad in the great World War!”  
“Yes, Daddy—but why did they need all the other soldiers?”



# HERE and THERE at BGH

You may not know it—but if a certain MISS hadn't given so kindly of her time to the Brooke Bluebonnet Broadcast, a certain little magazine in its mere infancy would not have "gone to press" on time. A great big "THANK YOU"—and we do mean you, Doris!

\* \* \*

It certainly is swell to see Dorothy Willis on her feet and about the hospital these days, even if she does come in to see us "slaving" while she simply hasn't a thing to do!

\* \* \*

Why is it that JOHNNY never misses a chance to pass the Public Relations Office . . . particularly when the lights go out?

\* \* \*

There's a new cartoonist discovered over at the Medical Detachment by the name of Sgt. Anderson. Look for one of his cartoons in the next issue of Brooke Bluebonnet Broadcast.

\* \* \*

... and Cinderella lost her shoe again . . . !

\* \* \*

PLUTO may be little—but he sure is LOUD! It's the TAPS on his shoes, he claims . . . . . !

\* \* \*

Have you seen that certain private of the Medical Detachment who goes along the street, stopping every ten or fifteen steps to come to attention and salute, when no one is even in sight? Something should be done about it, for his wife is beginning to complain, too. "He never kisses me when he leaves in the morning any more, no—it's just a snappy salute and he's on his way—I'm really beginning to worry." Can anyone help this poor, depressed wife? He says he's just practicing. We wonder???

There are FIVE NEW CAPTAINS at Brooke General Hospital . . . congratulations CAPTAIN Hooks, CAPTAIN Koes-terer, CAPTAIN McCorkle, CAPTAIN Rague and CAPTAIN Wegmann!

\* \* \*

Polly Bomba is her name.  
She is not Wild nor is she Tame;  
She has an appetite you can't forget,  
We haven't been able to fill her up yet!

\* \* \*

**Texas State  
Board Exami-  
ners Visited  
Brooke General  
Hospital on  
29th March**

Special at-  
tention was given  
to those depart-  
ments in which  
the Student Ca-  
det Nurse will  
receive the great-  
er part of her  
training while at  
Brooke Gen-  
eral Hospital.  
Our prominent  
guests for the  
occasion were  
Miss Julia Kas-  
mier and Mrs.  
Eloween Mesch  
of San Antonio.

\* \* \*

Sixty men from the Convalescent Unit were guests of The San Antonio Police Department benefit boxing bout, Monday, 10 April 1944, at the Municipal Auditorium.

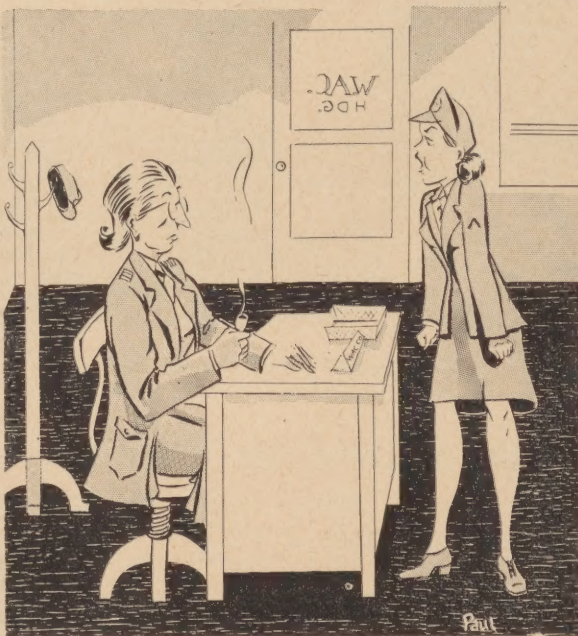
\* \* \*

A dance was given on Tuesday, 11 April 1944 at La Villeta by the Convalescent Unit. Fort Sam Houston Cannoneers Orchestra played for the occasion.

Story and pictures will appear in the May 1st issue.

\* \* \*

**BUY BONDS and you'll never have to  
WEAR 'EM !**





# LAUGH

## - and the World Laughs with You



"There is nothing wrong with your throat, Colonel . . . it's just that your voice is changing."

\* \* \*

A sergeant, ever-mindful of the censor, stopped in the middle of a letter to his wife to interpolate: 'Lieutenant Leslie, this is my wife. Honey, this is Lieutenant Leslie, the censor.'

Then he started a new sentence, and as an afterthought added: "Crowded here, isn't it, honey?"

\* \* \*

Salesman: "These are exceptionally strong shirts, soldier. They just laugh at the laundry."

Soldier: "I know the kind—they come back with their sides split."

\* \* \*

A London air raid warning notice advises: "If you get hit by a bomb don't go to pieces—just lie on the ground."

Then there was the jeep driver who backed his vehicle into a buzz saw . . . Now he's got two motorcycles.

\* \* \*

A gentleman from Oklahoma was riding on an airplane for the first time. At Phoenix, Arizona, the plane made a beautiful landing, and immediately, a little red wagon rushed up to refuel it. Next stop was Fort Worth, and again a little red wagon rushed up. The same thing happened in Nashville. Up dashed the little red wagon and the plane is off again.

Another passenger turned to the gentleman from Oklahoma and remarked: "These planes certainly make wonderful time." The Oklahoman drawled: "That little red wagon isn't doing bad, either."

\* \* \*



"It would be better if Miss Tweedle here took the temperatures!"



# CELEBRITIES VISIT AT BROOKE

Photos by U. S. Army Signal Corps

Right, **ISAAC STERN**, famous violinist, stops to talk with Pvt. Lonnie Krause of Liberty Hills, Texas, when he appeared at B.G.H. in recital.



Left, from all indications, **FRANK McHUGH**, movie comedian, is thoroughly enjoying his fried chicken. Right, Pvt. Newburn Womack of Jacksonville, Texas.

Right, **LESLIE BROOKS**, movie starlet, and **FRANK SULLY**, movie comedian, get a B-1 shot in the arm from Miss Elizabeth Sullivan. Les and Frank say it gives them extra "pep"—and helps them keep fresh for hours of visiting the many wards in Army hospitals.



Left, **LYNN MERRICK**, and right, **BETTY ALEXANDER** eat in the Patients' mess with Pvt. Alfred L. Nutting of Jersey City, N. J., S/Sgt. Henry L. Schentrup of San Antonio, Texas, and T/4 Hymie Amnesty of Los Angeles, Calif. Above celebrities appeared at Brooke General Hospital through arrangement with the USO Camp Shows.